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MGF 005-85 4 May 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Gulf Bureau--April 1985

I. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

- 1. Following discussions with LD/BBC, agreement was reached that effective 5 May Gulf Bureau will assume full coverage of Saudi media from the bureau's opening at 0400 GMT up to 2000 GMT. LD/BBC will cover Saudi media from 2000-2300 GMT. With this change, Gulf bureau will gain responsibility for the Saudi Press Agency in Arabic up to 2000, begin covering Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic casts previously covered by LD/BBC during this period, and continue its coverage of Saudi Television Service in Arabic. Saudi media will now be consolidated at one bureau for 85 percent of Saudi media broadcast hours.
- 2. Gulf Bureau found itself unexpectedly involved in the coverage of Sudan's 6 April coup when, upon cruising for reception of Sudanese media, it was found that Khartoum SUNA in Arabic was received with reception ranging from unmonitorable to good, thus enabling Gulf to provide backstop assistance of SUNA for Jordan Bureau. Bureau reception of the (Clandestine) Voice of the Sudanese Popular Revolution in Arabic was also heard with fair reception. A close watch was maintained on the clandestine station's behavior owing to headquarter's interest in the line of this station toward the new Sudanese regime and numerous items were filed from this source. In addition, Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic was checked but unheard throughout the early days of the coup. The station became monitorable on 22 April. Daily behavior FYI's were filed during the height of the coup events.
- 3. At the request of Islamabad Unit (on behalf of the U.S. embassy), Mashhad International Service in Dari was put on coverage and 1-week's worth of program summaries wirefiled from the 1530 GMT cast. London Bureau was added as a consumer for these program summaries at their request for passing along to the BBC.

- 4. At Nicosia Bureau's request, Gulf assumed coverage of Moscow in Persian to Iran for the 8-12 April period, including daily wirefiling of three program summaries.
- 5. With the introduction of DST in the Soviet Union, the semi-annual check of Moscow International and Soviet regional international casts was conducted by bureau monitors.

B. Communications

- 1. The bureau experienced a total commo outage on 14 April when telephone lines leading to the bureau were accidently severed at a construction site near the bureau. The bureaus primary incoming/outgoing landline to the embassy was cut, as well as the backup Telex line and incoming telephone lines. Fortunately, one outgoing telephone line remained operative, enabling editors to inform the Wire of our situation. Arrangements were made to hand carry traffic to the Naval Support Unit for transmission, while the embassy TCU assisted in receiving incoming traffic. Arrangements were made the following day to activate the previously dormant microwave system. With the cooperation of embassy personnel, the microwave became operational on 15 April, enabling us to resume normal filing. The telex was restored on 16 April, but the commo landline was not restored until 20 April.
- 2. The chief of the communications section, returned to duty on 14 April following her maternity leave. With her return, the commo section is at full strength for the first time since late December.

C. Technical

1. Two major projects were completed during the month with the help of the visiting regional engineer. An automatic fire alarm system is now operational. When a fire is detected, the system sets off an alarm in the bureau, while simultaneously sounding an alarm in the technician's apartment, thus providing an alert during hours the bureau is closed. Work is still going on to install an additional alarm in another American staffer's house. Also completed during the month was the installation of a switchgear for the bureau's emergency generator. Should commercial power fail, the generator now will automatically switch on within seconds.

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III. ADMINISTRATIVE

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A. Visitors

1. Regional engineer TDY'ed at the bureau 16-25 April.

2. The bureau chief returned from TDY in Washington

for the Bureau Chiefs' Conference and London on 25 April.

3. FBIS'er visited Bahrain late in the month as part of the National War College delegation. A tight schedule precluded a visit to the bureau, but the bureau chief met with him on the 27th at a picnic in the desert given by Ambassador Leidel for the War College visitors.

B. Other

Effective 1 April per diem for Manama was increased from \$138.00 to \$156.00.

Chief, Gulf Bureau

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Attachment A

ENGINEERING REPORT -- GULF BUREAU MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 1985

2EA Delta 1X10 Multicouplers 1 Delta 2X4 Multicoupler Equipment Received:

2 EA Coax Switches 1 WJ 8718 Receiver

Equipment Transferred: 2 EA Eagle Gas Stoves

Projects Planned:

Add a submain panel to AC power line to Bureau for lighting and AC switches for battery chargers in generator room.

| GULF BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR APRIL 1985

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III. OUTPUT FROM FLL SOURCES:			
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